

FRENCH TROOPS RUSH THROUGH BELGIUM TO AID LIEGE

and the Germans were finally compelled to give way and retire on the main column near the river.

Despite the fact that three entire German army corps are engaged they have been unable to penetrate the Belgian line, which has now been reinforced by a flying French cavalry column.

French reinforcements are constantly arriving, and the Belgian staff officials here declare that they can now hold the Liege forts indefinitely.

The German troops are in distress because their supply trains have not come up. Belgian cavalry are cutting their communications and sweeping around them. The railroad also has been destroyed and while the Germans are trying to restore it they have been unable to do so up to the present.

Three Army Corps in the Battle To-Day.

The Seventh, Ninth and Tenth Corps of the German army were engaged in to-day's attack. Gen. Von Emmich was in personal command.

The slaughter is terrible, as the Belgian fire is deadly. The Germans are advancing over open spaces that have been accurately mapped and the range determined by the Belgians. German field artillery, mortars and siege guns are in action, pouring thousands of exploding shells into the Belgian fortresses.

Instead of a twenty-four hour truce, the Belgians granted one of two hours in order that the Germans might collect their wounded.

Gen. Leman declared that the request for an armistice was intended only to permit the Germans to hurry up two additional army corps from Cologne. The Germans have been outwitted at every point to date. The Belgians have apparently fallen back defeated and whenever the Germans have rushed forward they have been trapped. This ruse has worked several times. In addition seven regiments of German cavalry which crossed the Meuse were surprised by Belgians and literally cut to pieces. Those not killed or wounded were forced to surrender.

Gen. Leman reported to the War Office to-day that up to the present the entire Belgian losses have totalled only 8,000 men in killed and wounded, as against 30,000 to the Germans.

Soldiers returning to Brussels report that the trenches around Liege are literally filled with the bodies of Germans. In some places the bodies are piled four and five deep.

The War Office in an official statement reviewing the situation to date declares that despite the fact that 125,000 Germans have been engaged they have been unable to make any impression on the Liege defenses. The statement then says:

"For many days our little army, with tenacity and courage, rendered highly valuable service to the French army, which for some days has been coming to our assistance at top speed. French troops occupy much Belgian territory now and are supporting the Belgian defenders.

"The German prisoners of war are mostly cavalrymen. They display no enthusiasm for war. Despite the fact that when the attack was renewed to-day three entire German army corps were engaged, they are unable to make any impression on the Liege forts, which still hold out and which are still well supplied with ammunition. Belgian reinforcements have been sent to Liege."

ANTWERP, Belgium (via London), Aug. 8.—The Belgian Government to-day seized thirty-four German steamers and two sailing ships in the new port here.

First British Army Lands in France

PARIS, Aug. 8.—A despatch published by the Petit Parisien states that the German cruiser Augsburg, which bombarded the Russian port of Libau, has been sunk by a Russian torpedo boat.

She was a protected cruiser of 4,280 tons displacement, with a speed of 27 knots. She carried a crew of 379 officers and men.

A fleet of British transports, convoyed by two British battleships and three armored cruisers, landed British regulars at Ostend, Calais and Dunkirk to-day.

The first British expeditionary force numbered 22,000 men, and comprised some of the crack regiments of the British army. The troops were landed under the direction of French officers.

They will be hurried to Namur, where they are to aid the Belgians in making their second stand when Liege proves untenable.

In accordance with the precedent established during the war of 1870, when the same honor was paid the fortress town of Belfort, France to-day conferred the Legion of Honor on the city of Liege, Belgium.

Many Czech soldiers were lined up in front of their regiments and shot by Austrians because they refused to go to the front, it was announced at the War Office here to-day. The Czechs were attached to Bohemian regiments which were ordered to the Russian border.

According to reports received here from Liege, several German regiments marched into battle under the Belgian flag and wore Belgian cockades in order to deceive the defenders.

The great improvement to-day in the general train service in France is taken as a reliable indication that the mobilization and concentration of the French armies are nearly completed. More than 2,500 passengers left Paris to-day for the south of France.

ROTTERDAM, Aug. 8.—Returning from the front to-day the Ninth Regiment of the Belgian army defending Liege paraded through the streets of Antwerp, carrying German helmets upon their bayonets. Vast throngs cheered and wept as the regiment marched along.

FLUSHING, Holland (via London), Aug. 8.—The Norwegian steamer Tysla of 2,905 tons struck a mine outside the Dutch island of Wieringen to-day. The explosion shattered her stern, but the Captain managed to run her on the beach.

125,000 German Troops Hurled Against Liege Forts

LONDON, Aug. 8.—The latest reports from Brussels show that Gen. Leman, the Belgian commander, has refused to grant the German request for an armistice of twenty-four hours, though fighting ceased for a few hours.

The Germans are reported as continuing their advance en-masse, despite their

heavy losses. It is believed here that they desire to overwhelm the defending Belgian forces by sheer weight of numbers. The main advance is led by the Seventh army corps, commanded by Gen. von Einem Ditmaler, and by the flower of Gen. von Emmich's Tenth corps, with the Ninth corps, that has already borne the brunt of the fighting and suffered very heavy losses, held in reserve.

On Wednesday night the German Seventh Army Corps made a tremendous assault on the Liege fort with the aid of searchlights, but the Belgians by a daring counter-attack from the Heights of Wandre, a village four miles northeast of Liege, compelled the attacking force to retreat in disorder toward Maestricht, on the left bank of the Meuse, about fifteen miles north of Liege.

Another assault by the Germans upon the Chateau Langres, under cover of a heavy artillery fire, was defeated by the Belgians, who blew up the Chateau.

A News despatch from Brussels states that heavy rains are swelling the Meuse and its tributaries and so retarding the German advance.

The railways leading to Arlon and Verdun have been cut by the Belgians, blocking the road to France over which the German advance was planned.

The Standard, Daily Mail and other papers to-day appeal to Italy to abandon her neutrality and come to the assistance of England and France against "the common enemy of Europe."

A despatch from Milan to the Chronicle says the Italian authorities at Genoa have seized two German trans-Atlantic vessels, the Hamburg-American Moltke and the North German Lloyd Koenig Albert. It is explained that the action was taken when the captains demanded a supply of coal although they already had coal aboard. The Koenig Albert arrived from New York July 17 and the Moltke on July 28.

A British force on the Gold Coast, West Africa, has seized Port Lome, German Togoland.

German Army of 40,000 Lands in Finland

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 8.—The real invasion of Russia by Germany is in progress. Reports received here to-day say that a German invading army of 40,000, supported by warships, has been landed at Ekenaes and is now marching on Helsingfors, the capital of Finland.

The Germans have been opposed by Russian troops, but they are persisting in their advance, and it is expected that Helsingfors will be taken. This movement is preliminary to a general invasion of Russia. From Helsingfors to St. Petersburg there is a direct line of railway, along which it is expected the Germans will advance.

STOCKHOLM, Aug. 8 (via London).—The captain of a schooner which has arrived here from Libau, having sailed from the Russian port on Aug. 4, reports a heavy bombardment of Libau by the German fleet and that the fortresses were badly damaged. He saw no warships on the voyage. All the stores and the wharves at Hango, Finland, were burned, having been blown up by Finns and Russian troops. Steamship communication between Sweden and Finland has been restored.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 8.—German and Russian cavalry are in almost constant skirmishing along the Prussian frontier. The German advance is being supported by mounted artillery, and the Germans are destroying all buildings along the line of the frontier.

A Russian raiding party burned the towns of Narsim and Illiovo in a sudden raid, but were forced to fall back before a superior German force.

VIENNA, Aug. 8.—It is announced that Austrian cavalry divisions have been sent to co-operate with the German army that is moving against the French.

Servian Army Captures Austrian Town in Bosnia.

NISH, Aug. 8.—It was officially announced to-day that a Servian army has occupied Fotcha, in Bosnia, which is on the Drina, thirty miles southeast of Serajevo.

No Austrian soldiers are now on Servian soil, it was officially stated at the War Office to-day. The Austrians have been repulsed at Semendria and all other points. The Crown Prince, heading the main division of the Servian army, to-day assumed the offensive, directing a determined attack upon the Austrian army.

The Austrian troops evacuated Visegrad, on the frontier of Novibaza, to-day. The Servian troops immediately reoccupied the place.

HULL, Aug. 8.—Eighty Germans here who failed to satisfy the police upon an examination of them were arrested and placed aboard a government steamer, where they are detained.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 8, via London.—The Telegraf reports the receipt of a wireless message announcing that a German cruiser is en route for Ymuiden, bringing ten men who were wounded in a naval battle.

Portuguese Will Fight With British.

LONDON, Aug. 8.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Lisbon says that at a special meeting of Parliament to-day the declaration was made that Portugal would place herself unconditionally on the side of England according to the terms of her ancient treaty. The declaration was received with enthusiastic cheering for France and England.

"According to our alliance," said Premier Machado, "we have duties which we in no way fail to realize."

Portuguese warships have been ordered to prepare for a cruise around the coast and foreign shipping in Portuguese ports has been notified to remove its wireless installation. The War Office has ordered the mobilization of three military divisions.

VIENNA (via London), Aug. 8.—The Montenegrin Government has informed the Austrian Minister that Montenegro considers itself in a state of war with Austria. As consequence, the Austrian Minister has left Cetinje.

Rumor That Austria Will Turn Against Kaiser

ROME, Aug. 8.—The sensational declaration was made by Italian officials here to-day that Austria has declined to aid Germany against England.

The officials state that the German battle cruiser Goeben and the cruiser Breslau, expelled from Messina harbor yesterday, wirelessed for the Austrian fleet to come to their assistance. The Austrian naval authorities in reply sent a flat refusal, declaring that war had not yet been declared between Austria and England.